

To: Wharton, Steve[Wharton.Steve@epa.gov]; Sisk, Richard[Sisk.Richard@epa.gov]
Cc: Madigan, Andrea[Madigan.Andrea@epa.gov]; Murray, Bill[Murray.Bill@epa.gov]
From: Williams, Laura
Sent: Tue 10/13/2015 4:54:37 PM
Subject: RE: Associated Press inquiry and BOR scope

It seems that HQ found the document through another email chain and have already approved its release. Thank you all for scrambling but I think we are through with this inquiry. I'll forward the answers for the AP questions if I get them. - lw

From: Wharton, Steve
Sent: Tuesday, October 13, 2015 9:02 AM
To: Sisk, Richard
Cc: Madigan, Andrea; Murray, Bill; Williams, Laura
Subject: FW: Associated Press inquiry and BOR scope

Richard – FYI. It seems that our customary practice in situations like this is to require a FOIA request, but then again, this might be an exception.

Steve

From: Coursesn, Robin
Sent: Tuesday, October 13, 2015 8:50 AM
To: Wharton, Steve
Cc: Christensen, Stanley; Murray, Bill; Stalcup, Dana; StClair, Christie; Mahmud, Shahid; Williams, Laura; Nguyen, Duc
Subject: RE: Associated Press inquiry and BOR scope

All (and if this needs to be forwarded to others please do so), I have attached the WAF that initiated the BOR work at Gold King. This was funded through an existing removal IA and Duc Nguyen is the PO. Tom Luebke at the BOR is the contact for this IA and coordinates the peer reviews by the COE and USGS. His email is Luebke, Thomas tluebke@usbr.gov. If you have any further questions feel free to call me.

From: Wharton, Steve
Sent: Friday, October 09, 2015 2:20 PM
To: Coursen, Robin
Cc: Christensen, Stanley
Subject: FW: Associated Press inquiry

Robin – Were you involved in setting up the BOR review of the Gold King Mine incident?

Thanks,
Steve

From: Williams, Laura
Sent: Friday, October 09, 2015 10:59 AM
To: Murray, Bill; Wharton, Steve
Subject: FW: Associated Press inquiry

You might also want to be looking for this information. You're not on their lists but you will be shortly. - lw

From: StClair, Christie
Sent: Friday, October 09, 2015 10:56 AM
To: Stalcup, Dana; Williams, Laura; Dreyfus, Melissa G.; Deitz, Randy; Cohen, Nancy; Bassler, Rachel; Mahmud, Shahid; Gartner, Lois; Fitz-James, Schatzi
Subject: RE: Associated Press inquiry

Looping in Lois and Schatzi. Thanks everybody!

Christie St. Clair

Office of Public Affairs

Environmental Protection Agency

Washington, DC

o: 202-564-2880

m: 202-768-5780

From: StClair, Christie

Sent: Friday, October 09, 2015 12:52 PM

To: Stalcup, Dana; Williams, Laura; Dreyfus, Melissa G.; Deitz, Randy; Cohen, Nancy; Bassler, Rachel; Mahmud, Shahid

Subject: Associated Press inquiry

Hi all, can you please help us track down this document the reporter is referring to?

“EPA/BOR Superfund Program Work Authorization Form dated 8/20/2015 and any attachments”

And let me know if there are any “additional documents that detail the nature and scope of the work that Interior was requested to conduct as part of its independent assessment of the Aug. 5 Gold King Mine incident.”

We’re checking with the reporter about his deadline.

Thank you!

Christie St. Clair

Office of Public Affairs

Environmental Protection Agency

Washington, DC

o: 202-564-2880

m: 202-768-5780

From: Harrison, Melissa

Sent: Friday, October 09, 2015 11:52 AM

To: Grantham, Nancy; StClair, Christie; EOC Public Information; Smith, Paula

Subject: FW: Gold King

Hey team-will you work on figuring out what this doc "EPA/BOR Superfund Program Work Authorization Form dated 8/20/2015 and any attachments" is per his request?

Melissa J. Harrison

Press Secretary

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Office: (202) 564-8421

Mobile: (202) 697-0208

Harrison.Melissa@epa.gov

From: Brown, Matthew [<mailto:MBrown@ap.org>]

Sent: Friday, October 09, 2015 11:40 AM
To: Harrison, Melissa
Cc: Allen, Laura; Press
Subject: RE: Gold King

Thanks for getting back to me Melissa. I have tried the Bureau of Reclamation and will try Jessica Kershaw as well.

In the interim, please provide a copy of the EPA/BOR Superfund Program Work Authorization Form dated 8/20/2015 and any attachments. Please also provide any additional documents in the EPA's possession that detail the nature and scope of the work that the Department of Interior was requested to conduct as part of its independent assessment of the Aug. 5 Gold King Mine incident. This information should be available to the public under the federal Freedom of Information Act.

Thanks for your time.

Matt Brown

Matthew Brown

Associated Press Correspondent

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fax-406 896 8117

From: Harrison, Melissa [mailto:Harrison.Melissa@epa.gov]
Sent: Friday, October 09, 2015 9:13 AM
To: Brown, Matthew
Cc: Allen, Laura; Press
Subject: Re: Gold King

Hey Matt-these are all questions which should be addressed to the Department of Interior. You can reach out to Jessica Kershaw at: jessica_kershaw@ios.doi.gov

Melissa Harrison

Press Secretary

EPA

Office: (202) 564-8421

Mobile: (202) 697-0208

Harrison.Melissa@epa.gov

On Oct 9, 2015, at 11:03 AM, Brown, Matthew <MBrown@ap.org> wrote:

Hi Laura, Melissa-

I'm seeking more information about Gold King investigation, specifically whether it will address issues of potential negligence and/or criminal responsibility, as EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy suggested in her appearance before the House Natural Resources and Oversight committees.

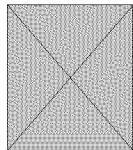
A Politico story yesterday described a "work form" that details the scope of work Interior's Bureau of Reclamation was to undertake.

Is it the EPA's understanding that issues regarding negligence or criminal responsibility will be addressed in the Dept of Interior Investigation? Was a specific request made to Interior to consider those issues? Are those issues being addressed in the EPA's internal review?

Please provide a copy of the EPA/BOR Superfund Program Work Authorization Form and any attachments. Please also provide any additional documents that detail the nature and scope of the work that Interior was requested to conduct as part of its independent assessment of the Aug. 5 Gold King Mine incident. This information should be public under the federal Freedom of Information Act.

Thanks for your time. I also left a voice mail for Laura.

Matt Brown



Matthew Brown

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